UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/506,453	02/18/2000	Atsushi Ito	325772015300	8167

			EXAMINER
25227	7590	05/19/2004	TRAN, DOUGLAS Q

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2624	

DATE MAILED: 05/19/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 March 2004.
2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
    closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6)☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
    1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
    3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
        application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)
1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2.   Claims 1-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the

combination of Salgado (US Patent No. 5,777,882) and Hasegawa (US Patent No. 5,534,974).

As to claim 1, teaches a printer comprising:

memory (i.e., a list from database) for registering a sending source of a print job sent

from a data processing device, and a message corresponding to the sending source (col. 12, lines

25-28);

a printing unit (14 in fig. 1 and 4) for printing according to the print job;

a controller (100 in fig. 1) for detecting a sending source corresponding to an output

destination based on the information of the print job sent from the data processing device, and

detecting whether the sending source has been registered in the memory(step of 212 in fig. 3).

Although, Salgado teaches the print job containing information indicative of a sending

source, Salgado does not teach the print job containing information indicative of a sending

source and output destination and a messaging unit for outputting the message corresponding to

the sending source when the controller detects that the sending source has been registered

Hasegawa teaches the print job containing information indicative of a sending source and output destination (col. 4, lines 55-58); and a messaging unit for outputting the message corresponding to the sending source when the controller detects that the sending source has been registered (step of S13 in fig. 4).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Salgado in order for the print job to include the output destination and message is outputted corresponding to the sending source as taught by Hasegawa. The suggestion for modifying the system of Salgado can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth above by Hasegawa because such modification would increase the efficiency of the system when allowing the user can deliver the print job to his desired location and get a message based on the status of that print job.

As to claim 2, Salgado and Hasegawa disclose every feature discussed in claim 1, and Salgado further teaches a plurality of output bins assigned to a plurality of users (11 in fig. 1), wherein:

the memory registers for each user a sending source and message corresponding to the sending source; and printing unit outputs a print out to an output bin assigned to a user indicated by output destination information for a received print job (see fig. 10); and

controller (100 in fig. 1) detects the sending source of the received print job has been registered in the memory as a sending source for the user indicated by the output destination information of the received print job (see fig. 10).

As to claim 3, Salgado discloses a printing system (fig. 2) comprising:

a plurality of data processing devices (i.e., other mailboxing systems, col. 8, lines 28-30);

a printer (14 in fig. 1 and 2) for printing based on a print job sent from a data processing

device (15 in fig. 2)

memory (i.e., a list from database) for registering the sending source contained in the

print job, and a message corresponding to the sending source (col. 12, lines 25-28);

a controller (100 in fig. 1) for detecting the sending source corresponding to the output

destination based on the print job sent from the data processing device, and detecting whether the

sending source has been registered in the memory (step of 212 in fig. 3); and

a messaging unit for outputting the message corresponding to the sending source when

the sending source has been registered (col. 12, lines 1-6).

Although, Salgado teaches the print job containing information indicative of a sending

source, Salgado does not teach the print job containing information indicative of a sending

source and output destination.

Hasegawa teaches the print job containing information indicative of a sending source and

output destination (col. 4, lines 55-58).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to modify the system of Salgado in order for the print job to include the

output destination as taught by Hasegawa. The suggestion for modifying the system of Salgado

can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth above by Hasegawa because such

modification would increase the efficiency of the system when allowing the user can deliver the

print job to his desired location.

As to claim 4, Salgado and Hasegawa disclose every feature discussed in claim 3, and

Salgado further teaches the memory is disposed in the printer (see step of 212 in fig. 3).

As to claim 5, Salgado and Hasegawa disclose every feature discussed in claim 3, and Hasegawa further teaches the memory is disposed in the data processing device (col. 4, lines 25-27).

As to claim 6, Salgado and Hasegawa disclose every feature discussed in claim 3, and Salgado further teaches the controller is disposed in the printer (100 in fig. 1).

As to claim 7, Salgado and Hasegawa disclose every feature discussed in claim 3, and Hasegawa further teaches controller is disposed in the data processing device. (col. 4, lines 25-27).

As to claims 8 and 9, Salgado and Hasegawa disclose every feature discussed in claim 3, and Hasegawa further teaches message unit is disposed in the printer or the data processing device (col. 4, lines 23-27).

As to claim 10, Salgado and Hasegawa disclose every feature discussed in claim 3, and further teaches the printer further comprises a plurality of output bins assigned to a plurality of users, wherein the memory registers for each user the sending source and message corresponding to the sending source have been registered on the memory for each user; the printing unit outputs a printout to an output bin assigned to a user indicated by output destination information for a received print job; and controller detects whether the sending source of the received print job has been registered in the memory as a sending source for the user indicated by the output destination information of the received print job (see step of 212 in fig 3 and table of User Profile db in fig. 10).

As to claim 11, Salgado and Hasegawa disclose the program for instructing the claim 1.

As to claim 12, Salgado discloses a printer comprising:

memory (i.e., a list from database) for registering a sending source of a print job sent

from a data processing device, and a message corresponding to the sending source (col. 12, lines

25-28);

a printing unit (14 in fig. 1 and 4) for printing according to the print job;

a controller (100 in fig. 1) for detecting a sending source corresponding to an output

destination based on the information of the print job sent from the data processing device, and

detecting whether the sending source has been registered in the memory(step of 212 in fig. 3);

Although, Salgado teaches the print job containing information indicative of a sending

source, Salgado does not teach the print job containing information indicative of a sending

source and output destination; and the controller instructs the printing unit to print them when the

sending source has been registered.

Hasegawa teaches the print job containing information indicative of a sending source and

output destination (col. 4, lines 55-58), and the controller instructs the printing unit to print them

when the sending source has been registered (step of S12 and S14 in fig. 4).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to modify the system of Salgado in order for the print job to include the

output destination and print out when the sending source has been registered as taught by

Hasegawa. The suggestion for modifying the system of Salgado can be reasoned by one of

ordinary skill in the art as set forth above by Hasegawa because such modification would

increase the efficiency of the system when allowing the user can deliver the print job to his

desired location.

As to claim 13, due to the similarity of this claim to that of claim 2, this claim is rejected

as the reasons applied to claim 2.

As to claim 14, Salgado a command unit for instructing the controller to delete a received

print job when he controller detects that the sending source has not been registered in the

memory (note: step of 212 in fig. 3 indicates that any registered user is displayed on the screen,

thus any print job of the unregistered user should be deleted).

As to claim 15, Hasegawa a storage unit for storing a received print job when the

controller detects that the sending source has not been registered in memory; and messaging unit

for indicating that a print job has been received from a sending source not permitted to print;

wherein the controller instructs the printing unit to print a print job stored in the storage unit

based on a print command from a user (col. 3, lines 62-65).

As to claim 16, Salgado a command unit for instructing the controller to delete a received

print job when the controller detects that the sending source has not been registered in the

memory (note: step of 212 in fig. 3 indicates that any registered user is displayed on the screen,

thus any print job of the unregistered user should be deleted).

As to claim 17, Salgado discloses a printing system (fig. 2) comprising:

a plurality of data processing devices (i.e., other mailboxing systems, col. 8, lines 28-30);

a printer (14 in fig. 1 and 2) for printing based on a print job sent from a data processing

device (15 in fig. 2)

memory (i.e., a list from database) for registering the sending source contained in the

print job, and a message corresponding to the sending source (col. 12, lines 25-28);

a controller (100 in fig. 1) for detecting the sending source corresponding to the output

destination based on the print job sent from the data processing device, and detecting whether the

sending source has been registered in the memory (step of 212 in fig. 3).

Although, Salgado teaches the print job containing information indicative of a sending

source, Salgado does not teach the print job containing information indicative of a sending

source and output destination; and the controller instructs the printing unit to print them when the

sending source has been registered.

Hasegawa teaches the print job containing information indicative of a sending source and

output destination (col. 4, lines 55-58), and the controller instructs the printing unit to print them

when the sending source has been registered (step of S12 and S14 in fig. 4).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to modify the system of Salgado in order for the print job to include the

output destination and print out when the sending source has been registered as taught by

Hasegawa. The suggestion for modifying the system of Salgado can be reasoned by one of

ordinary skill in the art as set forth above by Hasegawa because such modification would

increase the efficiency of the system when allowing the user can deliver the print job to his

desired location.

As to claims 18-26, due to the similarities of these claims to those of claims 4-7 and 10,

these claims are rejected as the reasons applied to claims 4-7 and 10, 14-16

As to claims 27-31, due to the similarities of these claims to those of claims 4-5, 8-9,

these claims are rejected as the reasons applied to claims 14, 4-5, 8-9.

As to claims 32-34, Salgado and Hasegawa disclose the program for instructing the claim

13-15.

Response to Arguments and Amendment

Applicant's arguments filed 03/02/04 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive.

Applicant asserted in page 3 to Salgado that " No message is output which corresponds

to the sending source when the controller detects that the sending source has been registered". In

reply, the new limitations from Hasegawa would modify to Salgado in which Hasegawa teaches

a messaging unit for outputting the message corresponding to the sending source when the

controller detects that the sending source has been registered (step of S13 in fig. 4). Thus,

Hasegawa can modify to the deficiency of Salgado.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the cited prior art fully discloses the claimed

invention and the rejection stand.

Conclusion

Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1 have been considered but are moot in view

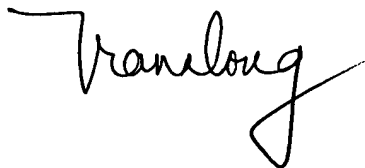of the new ground(s) of rejection. This action is made **non-final**.

        Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4857 or E-mail address is Douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

        Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Douglas Q. Tran
May. 17, 2004